

CLAIMS:

1. A memory card connector for receiving a memory card having a plurality of conductive contacts, comprising:

an insulating housing;

a plurality of conductive terminals mounted on the housing;

a cover having receptacle means for receiving the memory card; and

a pivot-detent mechanism operatively associated between the cover and the housing and movably mounting the cover to the housing, including

pivot means engageable between the cover and the housing to mount the cover for pivotal movement between an open position to allow the memory card to be received on the cover and a closed position bringing the contacts of the memory card into engagement with the terminals on the housing, and

detent means engageable between the cover and the housing to allow the cover to slidably move from said closed position to a latched position, a portion of said pivot means providing a dual function of forming a portion of said detent means.

2. The memory card connector of claim 1 wherein the pivot means of said pivot-detent mechanism comprises a pivot socket in one of the cover and housing for receiving a pivot projection on the other of the cover and housing.

3. The memory card connector of claim 2 wherein the detent means of said pivot-detent mechanism includes a detent socket separate from and independent of said pivot socket for receiving said pivot projection and defining said latched position of the cover, the pivot projection thereby performing a dual function of forming a portion of both the pivot means and the detent means.

4. The memory card connector of claim 1, including complementary interengaging latch means between the cover and the housing and automatically engageable when the cover slides to said latched position.

5. The memory card connector of claim 4 wherein said latch means comprises a latching flange on the cover slidable under a latching flange on the housing when the cover slides to said latched position.

6. The memory card connector of claim 1 wherein said housing is generally flat and mounts the terminals in a generally side-by-side array and includes a pair of mounting portions at opposite sides thereof, said pivot-detent mechanism being operatively associated between the mounting portions and the cover.

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7. The memory card connector of claim 6 wherein said cover is generally flat and the receptacle means includes a mouth at one end of the cover for insertion of the memory card thereinto, the cover having a pair of spring arms at an opposite end thereof and juxtaposed alongside said pair of mounting portions of the housing, said pivot-detent mechanism being operatively associated between the mounting portions of the housing
10 and the spring arms of the cover.

8. The memory card connector of claim 7 wherein the pivot means of said pivot-detent mechanism comprises a pivot socket in each of said mounting portions of the housing for receiving a pivot projection on each of said spring arms of the cover.
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9. The memory card connector of claim 8 wherein the detent means of said pivot-detent mechanism includes a detent socket in each of said mounting portions of the housing separate from and independent of the pivot socket in the respective mounting portion, the detent sockets receiving the pivot projections and defining said
20 latched position of the cover, and the pivot projections thereby performing a dual function of forming a portion of both the pivot means and the detent means.

10. The memory card connector of claim 9 wherein said detent projections are generally cone-shaped.
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11. The memory card connector of claim 9 wherein said detent projections are flat, round and chamfered about the periphery thereof.

12. The memory card connector of claim 9 wherein said cover is stamped and formed of sheet metal material, and said spring arms are resilient to self-bias the pivot projections thereon into the pivot sockets and the detent sockets in the mounting portions of the housing.
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13. The memory card connector of claim 12 wherein said cover includes a cover plate spanning an area between said spring arms and a pair of side walls defining opposite sides of said receptacle means.

5 14. The memory card connector of claim 13, including latch means between the side walls of the cover and opposite sides of the housing and automatically engageable when the cover slides to said latched position.

10 15. The memory card connector of claim 14 wherein said latch means comprises latching flanges formed inwardly from said side walls of the cover and slidable under latching flanges at opposite sides of the housing when the cover slides to said latched position.

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